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Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1-18 are pending and are rejected.

Claims 1-6, 8, and 10-16 are amended, and claims 19 and 20 are added.

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph

Responsive to the objection to claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, because the Office Action states that the specification does not disclose the feature of selecting one of the received component video signal and the converted video signal, applicants have amended claim 8 to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that applicants regard as the invention and submit that the amended claim 8 meets the requirement of 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. For example, amended claim 8 recites that a component video format output is operative to output "the selected component video signal from the second switch."

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Responsive to the rejection of claims 1 and 3-5 as being anticipated by US 4,743,958 ("Bannister"), applicants have amended these claims to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that applicants regard as the invention, and submit that Bannister does not anticipate these claims.

Applicants have amended claim 1 to recite the features shown in FIGs. 7 and 8. Dependent claims 2-6 are amended to conform to the changes made in claim 1. In particular, amended claim 1 recites a method of processing input video signals in a video signal receiver having first and second component video signal inputs, the method comprising the steps of generating an internal component video signal in a particular format; receiving first and second video signals via the respective first and

second component video signal inputs, each received video signal having a video format that is one of multiple video formats; processing the received first and second video signals; selecting, in the first stage, one of the internal component video signal and the processed first video signal; converting the video format of the selected video signal from the first stage selecting step to the particular video format if the video format of the selected video signal from the first stage selecting step is different from the particular video format; selecting, in the second stage, one of the converted video signal and the processed second video signal; and providing the selected video signal from the second stage selecting step as an output.

By contrast, Bannister does not disclose or suggest the features of (1) generating an internal component video signal in a particular format; (2) processing the received first and second video signals; (3) selecting, in the first stage, one of the internal component video signal and the processed first input video signal; and (4) selecting, in the second stage, one of the converted video signal (converted from the selected video signal from the first stage selecting step) and the processed second video signal.

Bannister actually discloses a multiple television standards input selector and converter. The selector and converter includes a crosspoint switching circuit 10 controlled by a crosspoint controller 12, which is controlled by a microprocessor 20 to select a particular input to be transmitted to output lines 14a-c. See FIGs. 1 and 2, and col. 2, lines 10-17. Each of the output lines 14a-c is connected to one input of a respective one of the multiplexers 22a-c. See col. 2, lines 27-29, and FIG. 2. The second input of each of the multiplexers 22a-c is connected to the output from a transcoder 21, which converts a selected input signal in RGB format into YUV format.

See col. 2, lines 29-31. If the selected input is in RGB format, the selected multiplexer selects the converted YUV signal from the transcoder 21 (relied upon as the format converter). See col. 2, lines 31-38.

The crosspoint switch 10 and the multiplexers 22a-c may be interpreted as first and second switches used in the first stage and second stage selecting steps, respectively. However, there is no internal generated component video signal in a particular format and none of the received signals is processed. Thus, the first stage selecting step cannot select one of the internal component video signal and a processed first received signal, and the second stage selecting step cannot select one of the converted video signal and another processed received video signal, as recited in amended claim 1.

In light of the fact, that Bannister does not disclose or suggest the features of generating an internal component video signal in a particular format, processing the received first and second video signals, selecting, in the first stage, one of the internal component video signal and the processed first input video signal, and selecting, in the second stage, one of the converted video signal and the processed second video signal, as recited in amended claim 1, applicants submit that amended claim 1, and dependent claims 2-7 are patentable over Bannister.

Furthermore, amended claim 2 recites that the processing step includes the step of determining the video format of the first video signal before the converting step. Since the format for each input in the system disclosed in Bannister is fixed, there is no need to determine the format of an input signal. As such, amended claim 2 is patentable over Bannister for this reason alone.

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Responsive to the rejection of claims 6 and 7 as being unpatentable over Bannister in view of US 6,697,110 ("Jaspers"), applicants submit that these two claims are patentable for their direct or indirect dependence from amended claim 1, because Jaspers fails to cure the defects of Bannister as applied to amended claim 1.

Jaspers discloses a device and method for interpolating a color sample in a signal having alternately colored samples. See col. 1, lines 13-16. However, Jaspers does not disclose or suggest the features of generating an internal component video signal in a particular format, processing the received first and second video signals, selecting, in the first stage, one of the internal component video signal and the processed first input video signal, and selecting, in the second stage, one of the converted video signal and the processed second video signal, as recited in amended claim 1.

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Responsive to the rejection of claims 2, 8-9, and 11-16 as being unpatentable over Bannister in view of US 6,577,349 ("Yamaguchi"), applicants submit that these claims are patentable as discussed below.

Amended claim 2 are patentable because Yamaguchi fails to cure the defects of Bannister as applied to amended claim 1 from which amended claim 2 depends. Yamaguchi discloses a receiver capable of receiving mixed video broadcast signals having a plurality of different formats, converting received video signals into video signals having a format different from that of the received signals, and outputting both the converted signals and the unmodulated (unconverted) received video signals. See col. 2, lines 39-44. For example, FIG. 10 shows that the receiver includes a decoder

101 for determining the format of broadcast MPEG-2 signals and outputting the broadcast signals to an i-p converter 4 and a p-l converter 5. The receiver also includes a switching circuit 6 and a switching circuit 7. The decoder 101 outputs i/p identification information, informing the switching circuits 6 and 7 the format of the broadcast signals. See col. 8, lines 27-37 for the description of the decoder 101. Based on the identification information, the switching circuits 6 and 7 decide whether to select the unmodulated broadcast signals or the respective converted signals from the respective converters 4 and 5 for outputting the interlace and progressive signals, respectively. See col. 8, lines 32-42.

However, like Bannister, Yamaguchi does not disclose or suggest the features of generating an internal component video signal in a particular format, processing the received first and second input video signals, selecting, in the first stage, one of the internal component video signal and the processed first input video signal, and selecting, in the second stage, one of the converted video signal and the processed second input video signal, as recited in amended claim 1.

Independent claims 8 and 15 are amended to recite similar features as recited in amended claim 1. As such, applicants submit that the arguments made above with respect to amended claim 1 are also applicable to amended claims 8 and 15, and that amended claims 8 and 15, and respective dependent claims 9-14, and 16-18, are patentable over Bannister and Yamaguchi.

Furthermore, amended claim 11 recites that the video signal receiver further comprises a second format converter in communication with the first video processor and operative to convert the video format of the processed first video signal to the predetermined video format, wherein the first switch selects one of the converted

processed first video signal and the internal component video signal. Support of the feature can be found, for example, at page 23, lines 11-17. Bannister and Yamaguchi, considered singly and in combination, do not disclose or suggest two converters coupled in series. Thus, both do not disclose or suggest the feature recited in amended claim 11 and amended claim 11 is patentable over these two references for this reason alone.

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Responsive to the rejection of claim 10 as being unpatentable over Bannister in view of Yamaguchi as applied to claims 8-9, and further in view Jaspers, applicants submit that claim 10 is patentable over these three references because, as discussed above, both Yamaguchi and Jaspers fail to cure the defects of Bannister as applied to amended claim 8 from which claim 10 depends.

New Claims

New claims 19 and 20 depend from amended claims 15 and 1, respectively, and are patentable for reasons discussed above with respect to amended claims 15 and 1. Since these two claims recite similar feature as in amended claim 11, they are also patentable for the reasons discussed above with respect to amended claim 11.

Conclusion

Having fully addressed the Examiner's objections and rejections it is believed that, in view of the preceding amendments and remarks, this application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicant's attorney at (609) 734-6813, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

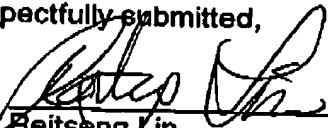
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No fee is believed due. However, if a fee is due, please charge the fee to
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Respectfully submitted,


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Patent Operations
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August 9, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this amendment is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to [Mail Stop Amendment], Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on:

August 9, 2004
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Jennifer Agins

Report to Data Base

Patent No. PU010185
 Inventor(s): DANIEL LEE, RENEAU, et al.
 Title: SYSTEM METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR UTILIZING A SINGLE VIDEO INPUT OF AN ELECTRONIC AUDIOVISUAL SIGNAL RECEIVER AS AN INPUT FOR MULTIPLE VIDEO SIGNAL FORMATS

PATENT OPERATIONS

Filed: 3/16/03

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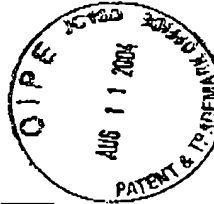
Patent No.

ATTN: AMENDMENTS

Attorney: REITSENG LIA

Internal? Y/N (if NO, fill agent)

INTERNAL? Y/N (if NO, fill agent)



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		Supplemental				Reply Brief	Issue Fee
		Voluntary				Petition To Withdraw	
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